

Caterpillar Class Newsletter

September 2025



Our class

A huge welcome to Caterpillar class for both new and returning pupils. We hope you had a lovely summer. We are excited to be back and are looking forward to working with all the families and pupils in Caterpillar class.

Our class team this year is:

Hannah Armstrong - Teacher Amy Martin- HLTA Chloe Morris - TA

Karen Bishop - TA Kirstin Wright - TA

If you have any questions or concerns at any time please speak to a member of staff, or email myself:

hannah.armstrong@riverside.hants.sch.uk

Please note that the class teacher Hannah Armstrong does not work Monday's. Amy Martin (Higher level teaching assistant) will run the class on Monday's supported by the rest of the team.

Our learning

- The focus of our learning in Caterpillar class is on; developing engagement in a range of activities and resources, interactions and communication, joint and individual attention skills, play skills, personal and independent skills, sensory and wellbeing. We will use engaging activities and experiences to provide a vehicle to work on these skills.
- We will work on coming together as a group to engage in activities such as sensory stories, bucket time, music and movement and 'Sensology' - an activity to awaken the senses and promote exploration.
- Pupils learning in areas such as literacy and maths will be woven through their engagement in the offered activities, resources, interactions and approaches.
- We will be using 'The Curiosity Programme' approach to support pupils development in engagement, interactions, communication and play skills.
- Pupils will also work on their individual targets in the areas of communication, literacy, maths, PSHE and wellbeing.

Our topic and learning themes

- Our overarching topic this half term is 'Look at me!'
- The art and music skills we will be exploring are painting and timbre.
- Pupils will explore a range of food items and engage with the skill of stirring in cooking.
- In maths we will work on our thinking skills to use our intentional actions and solve problems.
- Pupils will be supported to develop fine motor skills with a focus on finger isolation.
- We will explore the festivals of Harvest and Diwali through sensory activities.
- Our first sensory story this half term is 'Look at me'.
- Our Sensology themes are Green, Yellow, Orange, Harvest'



As part of our physical curriculum, Caterpillar class will visit Portsmouth School of Gymnastics in Farlington each Friday morning. More information will be sent to you when a start date has been confirmed.

To support our learning in class, we would be grateful if you could send in two photos.

- **A baby photo of your child.**
- **A family photo including your child (immediate family).**

Please send these in as soon as possible. They can be sent via email to hannah.armstrong@riverside.hants.sch.uk

Please ensure your child has these items in school:

- A named water bottle (to be kept at school)
- Nappies and wipes if required - we will let you know when we need more via the blue home book.
- Spare clothes - please top these up when we send dirty clothes home.
- Squash if your child does not drink water.

Important dates

INSET day -
Wednesday 1st October
Last day of term -
Friday 24th October
Return to school after half term break -
Monday 3rd November.

Please keep an eye on the school website and in bookbags for further information and updates.